

# CALIFORNIA RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

## Workers' Compensation Medical Benefit Delivery and Return to Work

May 1 – 2, 2003  
UCLA Faculty Center  
Los Angeles, CA

### Conference co-chairs:

**Christine Baker**, Executive Officer, Commission on Health & Safety & Worker's Compensation

**Suzanne Marria**, Acting Chief Deputy Director, Department of Industrial Relations

### THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2003

**7:00am**      **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:00am**      **Opening Remarks:** Christine Baker and Suzanne Marria

**8:30am**      **Presentation 1: Overview: The Scope of Issues in Workers' Compensation and Occupational Health**

#### **Presenters:**

- **John Howard, MD**, Director, National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

**9:00am**      **Presentation 2: Labor – Management**

#### **Presenters:**

- **Tom Rankin**, President, California Labor Federation and Commissioner, CHSWC
- **Jill Dulich**, Regional Director, Marriott and Chair, CHSWC

**9:30am**      **Presentation 3: Current State of Workers' Compensation Health Care in California**

*Medical Care Costs and Cost Drivers: What are the trends in the non-occupational and occupational setting?*

#### **Presenters:**

- **David Bellusci**, Executive Vice-President, Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau (WCIRB)
- **Frank Neuhauser**, Project Director, Survey Research Center, UC Berkeley
- **Michael Nolan**, President, California Workers' Compensation Institute
- **Gerald F. Kominski, PhD**, Principal Investigator, School of Public Health, University of California, Los Angeles

- 10:15am Break**
- 10:30am Presentation 4: Evidence of Policy Effectiveness of Policy Levers**  
*What are the cost control levers we have at our disposal, either in use or those that could be used in the non-occupational and occupational setting?*
- Presenters:**
- **Richard A. Victor**, Executive Director, Workers' Compensation Research Institute (WCRI)
  - **Dr. Thomas Fogarty**, Chief Medical Officer, Concentra Integrated Inc.
  - **Erik Taylor**, Assistant Vice-President, Metrics Dept., First Health Group
- 11:30am Lunch**
- 12:30pm Presentation 5: Methods for Improving and Measuring Quality of Care**  
*What are the ways we have of assessing quality, and how do we meaningfully assess outcomes rather than inputs?*
- Presenters:**
- **Stephanie Teleki, PhD**, Associate Policy Analyst, RAND Health
  - **Liza Greenberg, RN, MPH**, Vice President, Research and Quality Initiatives, URAC
  - **Linda Rudolph, MD**, Chief Medical Officer for the California Department of Health Services Medi-Cal Managed Care Division
  - **Linda Shelton, Asst Vice President**, Product Development, National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)
- 2:00pm Presentation 6: Patient Satisfaction with Workers' Compensation Medical Care: Workers' Experiences and Measurements**  
*What are the ways we have of assessing quality?*
- Presenters:**
- **Ben Amick, PhD**, Project Director, Worker Injury National Survey (WINS), University of Texas at Houston
  - **Kathy Dervin, MPH**, Coordinator of Managed Care Program, DWC
  - **Donna Farley**, Senior Health Policy Analyst & Health Research Director of RAND
  - **Susan Levin**, Attorney, East San Jose Law Community Center
  - **Lloyd Rowe**, Attorney, California Applicants' Attorneys Association
- 3:30pm Break**
- 3:45pm Presentation 7: System Efficiencies/Inefficiencies**  
*A panel discussing the opportunities in the workers' compensation system*
- Presenters:**
- **Jeff Harris, MD, MPH, MBA**, CEO of Med-Fx, Inc. and President of J. Harris Associates, Inc.
  - **Andrew Newman, PhD**, Research Director, Integrated Benefits Institute

- **Patricia L. Sinnott, PT, MPH, Ph.D.(cand.)**, Clinician, Health Services and Policy Analysis, School of Public Health, UC Berkeley
- **Alex Swedlow**, Executive Vice President, Research and Development, California Workers' Compensation Institute (CWCI)

**4:40pm      Wrap-Up**

## **FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2003**

**8:00am      Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**9:00am      Presentation 8: Lessons from Innovative Approaches in Other States**

**Presenters:**

- **Jay Himmelstein, MD, MPH**, Assistant Chancellor, Health Policy and Research, University of Massachusetts Medical School and Director, The Robert Wood Johnson Workers' Compensation Health Initiative
- **Barbara Wynn**, Senior Policy Analyst, RAND
- **Amy Lee**, Coordinator, Research and Oversight Council, Texas Workers' Compensation Commission
- **Thomas M. Wickizer, PhD**, Professor, Health Services and Community Medicine, University of Washington

**9:45am      Presentation 9: Access to Treatment**

*How can we assure access to quality medical care in Workers' Comp?*

**Presenters:**

- **Allard E. Dembe, ScD**, Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health, University of Massachusetts Medical School and Senior Research Scientist, University of Massachusetts Center for Health Policy and Research
- **Robert Harrison, MD, MPH**, Clinical Professor, Occupational Health Services and HIV/HBV Exposure Program, University of San Francisco
- **Ellen Braff-Guajardo**, Supervising Clinical Attorney of the Workers' Rights practice, East San José Community Law Center

**10:30am      Break**

**10:45am      Presentation 10: Reconciling Limited Resources with Unlimited Expectations**

**Presenters:**

- **Jamie Robinson, PhD**, Professor, Health Economics and Chair, Division of Health Policy and Management, University of California, Berkeley
- **Chris Mardesich, JD, MPH**, Associate VP of Compliance, United HealthCare

**11:30am      Lunch**

- 12:30pm**      **Presentation 11: Research on Medical Care and Return to Work**  
*What is and should be the role of medical care and medical professionals in the return to work process?*
- Presenters:**
- **John Frank, PhD, MD**, Senior Scientist, Health Services Research, Monitoring and Evaluation, Canada Institute for Work and Health
  - **Juliann Sum, JD, ScM**, Academic Coordinator, Institute of Industrial Relations and Labor Occupational Safety and Health, UC Berkeley
  - **Gideon Letz, MD**, Medical Director, State Compensation Insurance Fund
  - **Phillip Polakoff, MD, MPH**, Chairman, Founder, and Medical Director, Total Health Advocacy Partners (THAP)
  - **Bernyce Peplowski, DO**, Regional Physician, Physician, and Coordinating Chief, Southern California Permanente Medical Group
  - **Robin Nagel, MS**, Consultant, Integrated Pain Management
- 2:00pm**      **Presentation 12: Dispute Resolution Mechanisms for Treatment Issues**
- Presenters:**
- **Bert Cohen**, Workers' Compensation Judge, Division of Workers' Compensation
  - **Thomas L. Gilevich, Esq.** Counsel, HMO Help Center, Department of Managed Health Care
  - **David Studdert, ScD**, Assistant Professor, Law and Public Health, Harvard School of Public Health
- 2:45pm**      **Break**
- 3:00pm**      **Presentation 13: A New Vision of Medical Care: Occupational and Non-Occupational**  
*The future of workers' compensation health care*
- Presenters:**
- **John Garamendi**, Insurance Commissioner, California Dept. of Insurance
  - **Richard Brown, PhD**, Director, Center for Health Policy Research, UCLA
  - **John Burton, Jr., PhD**, Professor, Rutgers University
  - **Robert Reville, PhD**, Director, Institute for Civil Justice, RAND
- 4:00pm**      **Presentation 14: Next Steps**
- Presenters:**
- **Richard Gannon, Administrative Director**, Division of Workers' Compensation
- 4:15pm**      **Closing Remarks / Wrap-up / Appreciation**